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**FILED**  
**OCT 17 2024**  
Clerk, US District Court  
District of Montana - Billings

**ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA  
BILLINGS DIVISION**

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,**

**Plaintiff,**

**vs.**

**JAMES ERWIN SCHAEFFER,**

**Defendant.**

**CR 24-149 -BLG-SPW**

**INDICTMENT**

**PROHIBITED PERSON IN POSSESSION  
OF A FIREARM AND AMMUNITION  
Title 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(9)  
(Penalty: 15 years of imprisonment,  
\$250,000 fine, and three years of supervised  
release)**

**CRIMINAL FORFEITURE  
Title 18 U.S.C. § 924(d)**

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**THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:**

That on or about January 3, 2024, at Belgrade, in Gallatin County, in the State and District of Montana, the defendant, JAMES ERWIN SCHAEFFER, knowing he had been previously convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic

violence under the laws of the State of Colorado, which meets the definition of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence under 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(33)(A)(i) and (ii), and in which the victim was a person with whom the defendant was and had previously been cohabitating and was a person with whom the defendant had been in a dating relationship, knowingly possessed in an affecting interstate and foreign commerce, a firearm and ammunition, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(9).

#### FORFEITURE ALLEGATION

Upon conviction of the offense set forth in this indictment, the defendant, JAMES ERWIN SCHAEFFER, shall forfeit, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 924(d), any firearm and ammunition involved in any knowing violation of said offense.

A TRUE BILL.

Foreperson signature redacted. Original document filed under seal.

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FOREPERSON

  
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JESSE A. LASLOVICH  
United States Attorney

  
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CYNDEE L. PETERSON  
Criminal Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney